

# **Project SOAR: Reaching New Heights**

## 2018 Project SOAR Grantee Convening HUD Headquarters - Brooke-Mondale Auditorium A+B June 13-14, 2018

### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018

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|                      | Registration   |
| 8:00 a.m 8:45 a.m.   | Please enter HUD Headquarters via the building's South Lobby, located near 7 <sup>th</sup> and E St. SW. Please <u>arrive early</u> and use the Visitors entrance. Going through security will take time.  |
| 8:45 a.m 9:30 a.m.   | Welcome and Opening<br>Maria-Lana Queen, Acting Director, Community & Supportive Services Division, HUD<br>Dominique Blom, General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD<br>Tess Mullen, Grant Manager, Project SOAR, HUD<br>Herb James, Grant Manager, Project SOAR, HUD  |
| 9:30 a.m 10:30 a.m.  | What the Data Shows: An Update on the Project SOAR Evaluation Calvin Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy Development & Research, HUD Dylan Sweeney, Program Analyst, Policy Development & Research, HUD Michael DiDomenico, Fellow, Office of Evaluation Sciences, GSA  Representatives from HUD and GSA will discuss key trends emerging from the data submitted by Project SOAR grantees thus far and highlight implications for grantees' work. They will also  |
|                      | discuss in greater detail how Project SOAR will be evaluated in the coming years.  |
| 10:30 a.m 10:45 a.m. | Break  |
| 10:45 a.m 11:45 a.m. | Partnerships that Produce Results: How the College Board Can Help PHAs Support Youth Farhad Asghar, Executive Director of Community Partnerships, College Board Angela Bugayong, Associate Director, Access Learning Labs, College Board Amber Petty, Senior Manager, Everyone On Byron Pugh, Partnership and Community Relations Coordinator, Office of Resident Services, District of Columbia Housing Authority  During this panel, representatives from the College Board and the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) will discuss how they worked together to help DCHA residents pursue post-secondary education. Farhad Asghar with the College Board will also highlight how housing authorities can use the College Board's resources to assist residents. Amber Petty with the non-profit Everyone On will share insights on how to bridge the digital divide to help students prepare for and apply to college. |
| 11:45 a.m 12:15 p.m. | Financial Literacy 101: How FDIC Resources Can Help Families  Luke Reynolds, Chief, Outreach & Program Development,  Division of Depositor & Consumer Protection - FDIC  Luke Reynolds with the Federal Deposit Insurance Commission (FDIC) will discuss how education navigators can use an online financial literacy curriculum to help families improve their financial health. You can learn more at <a href="https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/">https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/</a> .   |
| 12:15 p.m 1:30 p.m.  | Lunch  |
| 1:30 p.m 1:50 p.m.   | Project SOAR TED Talk: Nudging Students towards College Success Royal Alley-Barnes, Project SOAR Grant Manager, Seattle Housing Authority Abu Omar, Education Navigator, Seattle Housing Authority Caitlin Reddy, Education Navigator, Seattle Housing Authority  Project SOAR TED Talks are designed to inspire, inform, and create connections between Project SOAR communities. During this talk, the Seattle Housing Authority's Education Navigators will introduce the concept of "nudges" and describe the ways in which they use nudges to encourage students to persist in obtaining their educational goals.   |



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#### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018 (CONT.)

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| 1:50 p.m 2:10 p.m. | Project SOAR TED Talk: Why Majors Matter Zulieka Boykin, Asset Manager, Prichard Housing Authority Sonya Pritchett, Education Navigator, Prichard Housing Authority  Project SOAR TED Talks are designed to inspire, inform, and create connections between Project SOAR communities. During this talk, representatives from the Prichard Housing Authority will discuss how they advise students on what to consider when choosing a college major and how that decision can impact their financial aid status and career trajectory.  |
| 2:10 p.m 3:00 p.m. | Project SOAR Consulting Corps  During this session, Education Navigators and PHA staff will break out into pre-assigned groups to discuss key successes thus far and to brainstorm about ways to tackle common challenges.  |
| 3:00 p.m 3:15 p.m. | Break   |
| 3:15 p.m 4:15 p.m. | Helping Students Facing Unique Challenges  Jill Green, Senior Director, Services for Students with Disabilities, College Board  Serena Holthe, Senior Staff Attorney & Pro Bono Counsel, National Juvenile Defender Center  On this panel, experts will discuss how to help students facing unique challenges pursue post- secondary opportunities. Jill Green with the College Board will discuss how to secure testing accommodations and other supports for students with disabilities. Serena Holthe with the National Juvenile Defender Center will discuss what youth who have been involved with the justice system need to know when filling out their college applications and applying for financial aid. |



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### DAY 2: THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2018

|                       | Registration  |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8:15 a.m 9:00 a.m.    | Please enter HUD Headquarters via the building's South Lobby, located near 7 <sup>th</sup> and E St. SW. Please <u>arrive early</u> and use the Visitors entrance. Going through security will take time.   |
| 9:00 a.m 9:15 a.m.    | Welcome to Day Two<br>Maria-Lana Queen, Acting Director, HUD Community & Supportive Services Division<br>David Byrd, Senior Advisor to Secretary Carson, HUD  |
| 9:15 a.m 10:00 a.m.   | Federal Student Aid Updates and Resources<br>Fred Stennis, Supervisor and Senior Outreach Advisor, U.S. Department of Education   |
|                       | Fred Stennis will discuss how the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid supports Project SOAR, dispel common myths about the FAFSA, and share useful resources.  |
| 10:00 am - 10:20 a.m. | Project SOAR TED Talk: The Impact of Utilizing a Drop in Model<br>Enrique Campos, Education Navigator, Southern California College Access Network<br>Stephanie Guzman, Education Navigator, Southern California College Access Network<br>Maria Perez, Education Navigator, Southern California College Access Network  |
|                       | Project SOAR TED Talks are designed to inspire, inform, and create connections between Project SOAR communities. In this talk, education navigators who work with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles will describe how they utilize a drop-in model to build strong relationships with students and their families.   |
| 10:20 a.m 10:40 a.m.  | Project SOAR TED Talk: Empowering Youth to Advocate for Themselves Symphoni Henry, Education Navigator, Chicago Housing Authority Ashley Thompson, Education Navigator, Chicago Housing Authority Grant Vitale, Education Navigator, Chicago Housing Authority  |
|                       | Project SOAR TED Talks are designed to inspire, inform, and create connections between Project SOAR communities. During this talk, education navigators from the Chicago Housing Authority will discuss how they empower youth to advocate for themselves in difficult situations.  |
| 10:40 a.m 11:00 a.m.  | Project SOAR TED Talk: The Power of Field Trips<br>Bethany Neal, Education Navigator, City of Phoenix<br>Zona Pacheco, Housing Supportive Services Coordinator, City of Phoenix<br>Kelsey Smith, Education Navigator, City of Phoenix   |
|                       | Project SOAR TED Talks are designed to inspire, inform, and create connections between Project SOAR communities. During this talk, representatives from the Phoenix Department of Housing will describe how they utilize field trips to forge relationships with students, provide them with a taste of the college experience, and raise their awareness of different careers. |
| 11:00 a.m 11:15 a.m.  | Break   |
|                       | Education Navigator Peer-to-Peer Coaching Sessions  |
| 11:15 a.m 12:15 p.m.  | Education Navigators and PHA staff will participate in a role-playing exercise and provide one another with feedback on their approaches to counseling students and parents.  |
| 12:15 p.m 1:30 p.m.   | Lunch   |



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### DAY 2: THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2018 (CONT.)

| 1:30 p.m 2:15 pm.  | Fireside Chat: Insights on College Advising Kim Cook, Executive Director, National College Access Network Tess Mullen, Grant Manager, Project SOAR, HUD  Kim Cook, the Executive Director of the National College Access Network, will share insights on best practices in college advising, with a specific focus on how to support college-going students as they prepare to attend school in the fall. |
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| 2:15 p.m 2:30 p.m. | Break   |
| 2:30 p.m 3:15 p.m. | Discussing Lessons Learned and Formulating Next Steps Tess Mullen, Grant Manager, Project SOAR, HUD  Each grant team will reflect on key lessons they have learned at the convening and develop action plans identifying ways to continue improving their program moving forwards.  |
| 3:15 p.m 3:30 pm   | Closing Remarks<br>Maria-Lana Queen, Acting Director, Community & Supportive Services Division, HUD   |